



The Webb County Link

A Publication Of The Webb County Public Information Office

April 2016

In This Issue

- * Employee Appreciation Merienda Pg 1
- * Building Maintenance Recognized Pg 1
- * National Crime Victims' Rights Week Pg 2
- * Shoot for the Stars Pg 2
- * Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month Pg 2
- * Head Start Month Pg 2
- * T.H.E. G.I.F.T.S. Presentation Pg 3
- * Community Center Event Roundup Pg 3
- * Emergency Management Conference Pg 4
- * Relay For Life Pg 4
- * Autism Awareness Month Pg 4

Important Dates

- * 5/9 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- * 5/11 JP, Pct. 4 Night Court 5pm—8pm
- * 5/12 Safety Committee Meeting
- * 5/16 Jury Duty
- * 5/18 New Employee Orientation
- * 5/23 Jury Duty
- * 5/23 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- * 5/24 Primary Runoff Elections
- * 5/30 Memorial Day County Offices Closed

Employee Appreciation Merienda



Judge Tano Tijerina and the Webb County Commissioners Court held an Employee Appreciation Merienda to honor all the Webb County employees. Members of the Commissioners Court thanked all members of the Webb County family for their hard work and dedication to all Webb County constituents.

Building Maintenance Recognized

Webb County Building Maintenance employees were recognized by the Webb County Executive Safety Committee for not having any reported injuries for 111 days. Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina was on hand to congratulate all the employees and supervisors. The Executive Safety Committee will continue to bestow this recognition on many more departments as new and innovative safety practices are developed and implemented throughout the many county departments.



National Crime Victims' Rights Week

On Tuesday April 12th, Judge Tano Tijerina, Sheriff Martin Cuellar, and many county and civic leaders proclaimed the week of April 10th as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. A candlelight vigil was held honoring all victims and survivors of crime. This ceremony included a moment of silence and prayer as they culminated the events the Sheriff's Office held for the 2016 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. A victim's widow of five children spoke about the pain and suffering her family endured after losing her husband in 2015 to a drunk driver. The candlelight vigil is held to highlight the importance of standing together and ensuring victims of crime are not forgotten.



Shoot for the Stars

The District Attorney's Office hosted the 8th Annual Shoot for the Stars Sporting Clay Tournament at the South Texas Shooting Complex on Saturday, April 23, 2016. Close to 80 shooters Laredo and surrounding areas participated in the tournament. The monies raised from the event will benefit the Webb County Better Community Foundation. The WCBCF fulfills its mission by inspiring, empowering and connecting with nonprofit organizations committed to providing services and assistance to the youth, elderly and the community in the areas of education, mental health, overall wellness and athletic programs.



Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month

Webb County Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina and Jaime Canales, together with District Attorney Isidro "Chilo" Alaniz, Webb County Attorney Marco Montemayor, the Webb County Sheriff's Office, and staff from the Children's Advocacy Center of Laredo and SCAN proclaimed the month of April 2016 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Representatives from the various agencies spoke on the need for people to work together to keep our youth safe and to help save and restore the lives of those who have fallen victims to these crimes. Everyone in attendance was urged to break the cycle of abuse and assault by understanding the causes and effects of the horrific crimes and joining with the community as a whole in preventing them from reoccurring.



Head Start Month

During the first meeting in April, the Webb County Courthouse was visited by some very special guests as the Commissioners Court proclaimed the month of April as Head Start Month in Webb County. Program director Aliza Oliveros and members of the Head Start policy council were present to address the Court. They thanked the court members not only for their endless support of the program but also for valuing the education of the future generation of Webb County.



T.H.E. G.I.F.T.S. Presentation

As part of the ongoing Administrative Services' health/education series T.H.E. G.I.F.T.S. (Taking Health Education and Giving Individuals Freedom To Succeed), an outstanding event was held at the Billy Hall Administrative Building on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. The event's guest speaker, Frank Valley, Director of Business Development, SOBA Recovery Center, delivered a very informative and sobering (pun intended) presentation highlighting the affects of Alcohol on individuals who use and abuse it, their families, and their community; as well as the illnesses attributed to it, the cost and treatment options for the disease. The event was very well attended and the group enjoyed a presentation full of information and humorous anecdotes that the vast majority of attendees could relate to. For those who could not attend but are interested in the information provided by Mr. Valley, flyers are available at Administrative Services.



Community Center Event Roundup



Just in time for the warm months, **La Presa Community Center** unveiled its new garden: "Seeds of Happiness." The garden consist of a waterfall, bird feeders, hanging baskets, and many plants.



The **Bruni Community Center** hosted its annual Spring Fair Fest. Hundreds of area kids and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day with vendors providing games, snacks, and important information.



ANSPAC promotes the development and advancement of women, to achieve a more stable family life and help improve their environment. Classes are held at the **Larga Vista Community Center** every Tuesday.



Area kids from the **Santa Teresita Community Center** received a special donation of brand new books for the center's library courtesy of Commissioner John Galo, South Texas Literacy Coalition, and LNV, Inc.



Members of the **Fernando A Salinas Community Center** had a special and instructive presentation from the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service with tips for a healthier life given by Ashley Gastineau.



The Week of the Young Child was celebrated with a field day at the **Ladrillito Activity Center**. Students from Anita T. Dovalina Elementary School along with their parents and staff enjoyed a family picnic, games, indoor and outdoor activities.

Submit your department stories for next month! E-mail your story along with any pictures to webbpio@webbcountytx.gov. Stories will be edited for style, grammar, and length. Please be advised that, due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee that all stories will be publicized.



Emergency Management Conference

The Webb County Emergency Evacuation members attended The 2016 Texas Emergency Management Conference—hosted by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). The conference was held April 4-8, 2016 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. The conference attracts around 3,000 people. Topics included weather safety for the family and community, emergency preparedness for aging Texans, and flood dangers.

Relay For Life

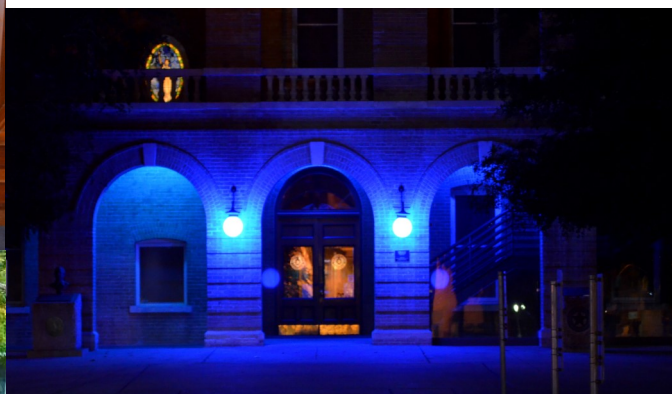
Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina and City of Laredo Council Member Juan Narvaez joined the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in proclaiming Friday, April 22nd, as Paint Laredo Purple Day in Webb County. In more than 5,200 communities and 20 countries, Relay For Life events comprise the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Each Relay For Life event is special to its community, but the movement's true power lies in the combined commitment of thousands of participants, volunteers, and supporters to help the American Cancer Society save lives from cancer and celebrate those who have conquered the disease.



Autism Awareness Month



In March, the month of April was proclaimed as Autism Awareness Month in Webb County by the Webb County Commissioners Court. In commemoration, the Webb County Courthouse was lit up in blue all month long. The Courthouse lights, organized by Commissioner Wawi Tijerina, joined many other buildings across the nation in highlighting the growing need for concern and awareness about autism.



As part of the events, the Webb County Sheriff's Office held the 5th Annual Kids Spring Fun Day. During the event, more than 20 community based organizations, including dental clinics, rehabilitative service companies, SCAN, Laredo Fire Department, and Families for Autism Support and Awareness had informational booths. This special day filled with fun, music and activities, including an Easter Egg Hunt, is held in support for children diagnosed with Autism. Close to 500 local students were in attendance.